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origin or parentage is not *necessarily* connected with that of cranial forms, it is evident that if we accept for man the recognised principles of zoological classification, we must regard the human family as a genus represented by numerous species, whose differential characters touch, so to speak, or even overlap each other. There is undoubtedly a serial unity of all human crania. There is, in other words, a human cranial type—the type of a natural class or family widely separated from the most anthropomorphous apes—a type susceptible of very numerous, but individually limited, modifications, the result of climatic conditions, and persisting as long as the conditions which bring them into existence continue; a type susceptible, also, of hybrid modifications, which though ephemeral and not self-sustaining as are the great stocks, are transitional and therefore valuable as showing all the possible variations of the primal or central form. All these variations tend constantly to assume the normal type, to assume it indirectly or spirally, as it were, so that the extreme departure from the type is bound to the latter through graduated forms, in such a manner that when the extremes of the series are compared together with reference to these forms, it is difficult to point out the constant and unvarying differential characters.

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October 4th.

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Thirty-four members present.

The Publication Committee laid on the table part 2 of vol. 4, second series of the Journal of the Academy.

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October 11th.

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Thirty three members present.

The President announced the death at Nutgrove, near Liverpool, England, of Mr. Thomas Nuttall, late a correspondent of the Academy.

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October 18th.

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Forty-seven members present.

Papers were presented for publication in the Proceedings, entitled:

Additions to the Coleopterous Fauna of Northern California and Oregon, by John L. LeConte, M. D.

Description of a new species of *Unio*, from the Isthmus of Darien, by Isaac Lea.

And were referred to Committees.

Mr. Lea stated that having inadvertently used the specific term of *Etowahensis* for a *Margaritana*, which name had already been occupied by a species described by Mr. Conrad, in the Proceedings of the Academy, he now proposed the name of *Georgiana* for his species.

The Committee on Proceedings laid on the table the Proceedings of the Academy for August and September, of the present year.

The following resolutions offered by Mr. Lea were adopted:

[Oct.

*Resolved*, That the Academy, in the death of Thomas Nuttall, one of its oldest Correspondents, is deprived of one of its brightest ornaments, and the members of one of their most distinguished associates.

*Resolved*, That the Academy has the highest appreciation of the learning, and assiduous investigations of its late Correspondent, in the wide field of American Botany, for which he has done so much.

*Resolved*, That while we had been deprived of his presence among us for a few years past, after so long a residence in this country, we nevertheless constantly held him in our memory, as one of the brilliant stars which illuminated our scientific horizon.

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October 25th.

MR. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Thirty-three members present.

The report of the Biological Department for the present month was read.

On report of a Committee of the Biological Department, the paper entitled, Upon the Production of Cataract in Frogs by the injection of large doses of sugar, by S. W. Mitchell, M. D., was recommended for publication in a medical journal.

The following papers were ordered to be printed in the Proceedings :

**Description of a New Species of UNIO from the Isthmus of Darien.**

BY ISAAC LEA.

UNIO AVERYI.—Testâ sulcatâ, subtriangulari, subventricosâ, inæquilaterali, posticè obtusè angularâ, anticè subrotundatâ; valvulis crassissimis, anticè crassioribus, natibus subprominentibus; epidermide rufo-fuscâ, eradiatâ; dentibus cardinalibus subcrassis, suberectis, valdè crenulatis; lateralibus crassis subrectisque; margaritâ albâ et iridescente.

*Hab.*—Isthmus of Darien. Mr. Frederick Avery, per J. G. Cooper, M. D.

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**Additions to the Coleopterous Fauna of Northern California and Oregon.**

BY JOHN L. LE CONTE, M. D.

For the purpose of rendering the list of Coleoptera of North-western America, published by me in the 11th volume of the Pacific R. R. Explorations and Surveys, complete up to the present time, I have prepared this memoir on the new species and synonyms observed since the printing of that memoir in June, 1857. The catalogue portion of this paper will be inserted in the edition of the above mentioned 11th volume, published for the authors, which will thus contain a catalogue of all the species of Coleoptera known at present, from western America, north of San Francisco.

*Descriptions of new species.*

*Bembidium aptum*, nigro-æneum, parum convexum, nitidum, thorace latitudine plus sesqui breviorè anticè angustato, lateribus rotundatis, angulis posticis paulo obtusis, basi utrinque bifoveato, elytris striis 4 vel 5 internis punctatis posticè oblitteratis, interstitio 3io bipunctato, humeris acutis, stria marginali posticè remota, anticè confluenta. Long. .25.

Oregon, Mr. Davidson. Very nearly allied to *B. nitidum*, but is larger and has the striæ of the elytra more finely punctured. The tibiæ and tarsi are wanting, but from the dark brownish color of the thighs I should infer that they were piceous.

1859.]